

# Jebero language

**Jebero** (Chebero, Xebero, Xihuila) is a moribund Amazonian language spoken by the Jebero people of Jeberos, Peru. It is spoken by only a small number of older adults and belongs to the Cahuapanan family together with Chayahuita.

**Contents**

**Phonology**

Vowels

Consonants

**References**

**Bibliography**

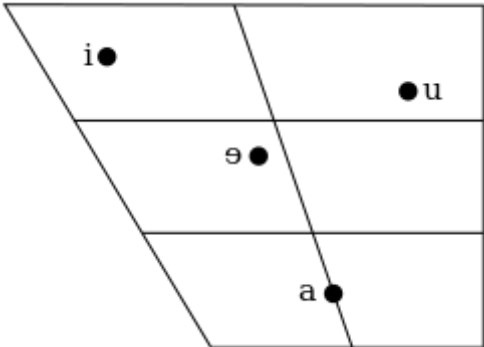
Jebero	
<i>Shiwilu</i>	
Native to	Peru
Region	Jeberos
Ethnicity	2,500 (2000)
Native speakers	30 (2011) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	Cahuapanan <div>▪ <b>Jebero</b></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	jeb
Glottolog	jebe1250 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/jebe1250">http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/jebe1250</a> ) <sup>[2]</sup>

## Phonology

### Vowels

Monophthong phonemes <sup>[3]</sup>			
	Front	Central	Back
<u>Close</u>	<u>i</u>		<u>u</u>
<u>Mid</u>		<u>ə</u>	
<u>Open</u>		<u>a</u>	

- /i/ varies between close front unrounded [i], near-close front unrounded [i̟] and close-mid front unrounded [e].<sup>[3]</sup>
- /u/ varies between near-close near-front rounded [ʊ] and close-mid back weakly rounded [ɔ], with the latter realization being the most usual.<sup>[3]</sup>
- /ə/ varies between mid near-front unrounded [ɛ̝] and close-mid central unrounded [ə].<sup>[3]</sup>
  - /ə/ is shorter than the other vowels, particularly between voiceless consonants.<sup>[3]</sup>
  - The sequence /ən/ is sometimes realized as a syllabic [ɳ].<sup>[3]</sup>
- /a/ varies between open central unrounded [ä] and near-open retracted front [æ̠].<sup>[3]</sup> The vowel chart in Valenzuela & Gussenhoven (2013) puts /a/ in the near-open central position [ɐ̟].
  - In closed syllables, /a/ is realized as open-mid central unrounded [ɜ̟].<sup>[3]</sup>



Monophthongs of Jebero, from Valenzuela & Gussenhoven (2013:101)

## Consonants

Consonant phonemes<sup>[4]</sup>

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Postalveolar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Nasal</u>		<u>m</u>	<u>n</u>			<u>ŋ</u>	
<u>Stop</u>		<u>p</u>	<u>t</u>			<u>k</u>	<u>ʔ</u>
<u>Affricate</u>				<u>tʃ</u>			
<u>Fricative</u>			<u>s</u>	<u>ʃ</u>			( <u>h</u> )
<u>Trill</u>	<u>plain</u>		<u>r</u>				
	<u>glottalized</u>		<u>ʔr</u>				
<u>Approximant</u>	<u>central</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>ð</u>		<u>j</u>		
	<u>lateral</u>		<u>l</u>		<u>ʎ</u>		

- /m, p/ are bilabial, whereas /w/ is labialized velar.
- /tʃ/ is an affricate, rather than a plosive.<sup>[4]</sup> It has nevertheless been placed in the table in that manner to save space.
- /n, t, ð, l/ are laminal denti-alveolar [n, t, ð, l].<sup>[5]</sup>
  - In the syllable coda, /n/ is realized with a wider contact, maximally dentoalveolo-velar [n̠n̠].<sup>[5]</sup>
  - After /u, a/, the denti-alveolar contact is often not made, which makes /n/ sound more like a velar nasal [ŋ].<sup>[5]</sup>
  - /ð/ may sometimes sound as if it were a lateral consonant, but it is never realized as lateral.<sup>[3]</sup>
- /ɲ, ʎ/ are dentoalveolo-palatal [ɲ, ʎ].<sup>[5]</sup>
  - /ʎ/ is sometimes realized as a weak fricative [ʎ̟].<sup>[3]</sup>
- /h/ occurs only in the affirmative interjection [ahã].<sup>[4]</sup>
- /r/ is realized as a flap [r] in the syllable onset and as a trill [r̄] in the syllable coda.<sup>[5]</sup>
- /ʔr/ is a glottalized flap [ʔr]. Intervocally, it is realized as a sequence [rʔ].<sup>[5]</sup>

## References

1. "Jebero" (<https://www.ethnologue.com/language/jeb>). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 2018-07-23.
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Jebero" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/jebe1250>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Valenzuela & Gussenhoven (2013), p. 101.
4. Valenzuela & Gussenhoven (2013), p. 98.
5. Valenzuela & Gussenhoven (2013), p. 100.

## Bibliography

- Valenzuela, Pilar M.; Gussenhoven, Carlos (2013), "[Shiwilu \(Jebero\)](http://gep.ruhosting.nl/carlos/shiwilu_jipa19.pdf)" ([http://gep.ruhosting.nl/carlos/shiwilu\\_jipa19.pdf](http://gep.ruhosting.nl/carlos/shiwilu_jipa19.pdf)) (PDF), *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, **43** (1): 97–106, doi:[10.1017/S0025100312000370](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0025100312000370) (<https://doi.org/10.1017%2FS0025100312000370>)
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